

5/17/69

Dear Paul,

A brief note while I have a moment to let you know one of the things I have been working on of which you've had no previous knowledge. Dick Bernabei is here. He has had some theories on the denting of the ammo and how it could have come about. We have done work on the local range with my rifle and one he has borrowed and have just finished taking a series of pictures for close examination of the cartridge "heads" (meaning the end with the primer in it, or the end opposite where the bullet is) and the face of the bolt, etc.

There is so much unexplained in the evidence, it is easy to draw seemingly valid but nonetheless wrong conclusions. We have been able to duplicate some of the dents in operating the weapons.

I will not be sending you copies of the pictures because of cost. But Dick and I will both have them, as also John Nichols will, in all probability.

We have established the invalidity of Thompson's detailed comment on these subjects, which is less than surprising and consistent with everything else he conjured. We have yet to determine whether there were microscopic markings on the "head", as there should have been (Frazier said rarely that he had not seen any) or how the dents were made on the "shoulders". We have been able to produce scrape marks on on the shoulders thus far. I do have my own pictures, still and movie, of the clip falling out of the gun when the last shot is chambered, which is pretty solid evidence that the gun was planted, for it was found with the clip in place whereas it is designed for the clip to fall out automatically as soon as the last bullet leaves it, before that bullet is fired. I had been told this by two youthful NRA members in the fall of 66 and I believe Sylvia comments on it, and I have the specs of the rifle showing it, but I never had a chance to photograph it before.

Here also is a copy of Lattimer's JAM piece. I haven't had a chance to read it. You needn't return it, for it is an extra I got for you.

Mike told me he had searched for any other references to Kenney for you and found none.

Best regards,